

A thumbnail sketch regarding time commitments for serving as member of the Council on Developmental Disabilities

Quarterly Council meetings are always held on Thursdays and Fridays in Boise. Thursday begins with committee and work group meetings from 8:30 am to 12:00 noon. A meeting of the full Council follows lunch and lasts until 5:00 pm. The meeting reconvenes at 6:00 pm for dinner and evening activities and events until approximately 8:00 pm. Friday, the full Council meets from 8:30 am to 12 noon and adjourns. Travel, lodging, and meal expense for meetings are paid by the Council. (2 days per quarter; 8 days per year) (Travel time before and after the meeting will extend the time commitment further. Most members travel to Boise a day in advance and depart immediately following the Friday noon adjournment.)

At the July summer meeting, newly appointed members participate in a Wednesday orientation to introduce them to the Council and its functions. (1 day in the first year of appointment)

Self advocate Council members have an additional time commitment as members of the Consumer Leadership Caucus. Members convene on Wednesday's for 6 or more hours. (1 day for Council self advocate members)

Beyond the actual meetings, members are included in e-mail communication from Council staff, usually about 2 to 3 times a month. Sometimes the communication is informational; other times it requires a reply, an opinion or possibly a vote on a matter of business. Committees sometimes conduct conference call meetings to discuss and decide critical issues such as public policy positions, budget expenditures, and membership applications. These calls don't happen frequently but when they do, they are usually of 1 hour duration. Occasionally a committee may call a special meeting of its members in Boise but usually this will only happen once a year. (1 hour or more per month; 12 or more hours per year) (Special committee meetings will add another day of travel and overnight lodging in addition to time required for the actual meeting; return travel generally occurs the same day as the meeting.)

In advance of each quarterly meeting, members receive information packets that members are required to read. These packets contain agendas, minutes, and agenda/issue descriptions to enable members to be fully informed. Packets are prepared in alternative formats when requested and require approximately 2 or more hours of time to read and review. (2 hours per quarter; 8 hours per year)

At each meeting members provide an oral report to the full council on events and activities in which they have been involved or about certain things taking place in the community, their child's school or place of employment. The Council expects members to keep their ears and eyes tuned to things related to people with developmental disabilities in their communities. How much time a member spends doing this is up to the individual himself/herself and their availability. Activities could range from reading about an issue or event in the local newspaper and investigating it further to attending a public meeting. (Estimated minimum of 1 to 2 hours per quarter; 4 to 6 hours per year)

In summary time requirements vary depending on the committee on which a member serves and whether or not they are a member of Consumer Leadership Caucus.

Refer to [Calendar](#) on the main page for a schedule of upcoming Council meetings.

For more information contact:

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